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DEC 04 2003

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

John David Westwood :

Application No. 09/642,620 :

Filed: August 18, 2000 :

DECISION ON PETITION

Attorney Docket No. SJ0000008US1 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed November 24, 2003, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-cited application became abandoned for failure to file a proper reply in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed March 27, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months from its mailing date. An amendment was filed on May 22, 2003, but failed to place the application in condition for allowance. No further replies were received within the allowable period and the application became abandoned on June 28, 2003. No extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) was obtained within the allowable period. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on October 21, 2003.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due


date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. If the person signing the instant petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the instant petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address of currently of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

The Request for Continued Examination filed November 24, 2003, is noted and made of record.

The application is being forwarded to Technology Center 1700 for further processing.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-0010.


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cc:
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